

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-507-501]

Certain In-Shell Pistachios From the Islamic Republic of Iran: Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of time limit or preliminary results of countervailing duty administrative review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 23, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric B. Greynolds or Darla Brown, AD/CVD Enforcement, Office VI, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2788.

Time Limits**Statutory Time Limits**

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department of Commerce ("the Department") to make a preliminary determination within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order/finding for which a review is requested. However, if it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of review within this time period, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend the time limit for the preliminary determination to a maximum of 365 days.

Background

On April 17, 2002 the Department initiated an administrative review of the countervailing duty order on certain in-shell pistachios from the Islamic Republic of Iran (Iran). See 67 FR 20089. The preliminary results are currently due no later than December 2, 2002.

Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Review

Upon further examination of the information submitted on the record of the administrative review, we have concluded that it is necessary to conduct a verification of the questionnaire responses. Because it is the Department's practice to verify administrative reviews prior to the issuance of preliminary results, we do not believe it is practicable to complete the preliminary results of the

administrative review within the 245-day statutory time frame. Therefore, the Department is extending the time limits for completion of the preliminary results until April 1, 2003. See the Decision Memorandum from Melissa G. Skinner, Director, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement VI, to Bernard T. Carreau, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, dated concurrent with this notice, which is on file in the Central Records Unit.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Dated: October 17, 2002.

Bernard T. Carreau,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 02-27012 Filed 10-22-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Federal Consistency Appeal by Barnes Nursery, Inc. From an Objection by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

ACTION: Notice of appeal and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Barnes Nursery, Inc. has filed a notice of appeal with the Department of Commerce asking that the Secretary of Commerce override the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' objection to the Barnes Nursery, Inc. after-the-fact permit to maintain an excavated channel and berm system intended to store water for agricultural purposes. This project is located in Erie County, Ohio adjacent to east Sandusky Bay.

DATES: Public comments on the appeal are due within 60 days of the publication of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Molly Holt, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1305 East-West Highway, Room 6111, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Public filings made by the parties to the appeal may be available at the NOAA Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services and the offices of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, 1952 Belcher Drive—Bldg. C-4, Columbus, OH 43215.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Molly Holt, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean

Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1305 East-West Highway, Room 6111, Silver Spring, MD 20910 or at 301-713-2967, extension 215.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Notice of Appeal**

On July 10, 2000, Barnes Nursery, Inc. (Appellant) filed a notice of appeal with the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) pursuant to section 307(c)(3)(A) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.*, and the Department of Commerce's implementing regulations, 15 CFR part 930, subpart H (revised, effective January 8, 2001). The appeal is taken from an objection by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (state) to the Appellant's consistency certification for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' after-the-fact permit to maintain an excavated channel and berm system intended to store water for agricultural purposes. This project is located in Erie County, Ohio adjacent to East Sandusky Bay.

The CZMA provides that a timely objection by a state precludes any federal agency from issuing licenses or permits for the activity unless the Secretary finds that the activity is either "consistent with the objectives" of the CZMA (Ground I) or "necessary in the interest of national security" (Ground II). Section 307(c)(3)(A). To make such a determination, the Secretary must find that the proposed project satisfies the requirements of 15 CFR 930.121 or 930.122.

The Appellant requests that the Secretary override the State's consistency objections based on Ground I. To make the determination that the proposed activity is "consistent with the objectives" of the CZMA, the Secretary must find that: (1) The proposed activity furthers the national interest as articulated in section 302 or 303 of the CZMA, in a significant or substantial manner, (2) the adverse effects of the proposed activity do not outweigh its contribution to the national interest, when those effects are considered separately or cumulatively, and (3) no reasonable alternative is available that would permit the activity to be conducted in a manner consistent with enforceable policies of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' management program. 15 CFR 930.121.

II. Public Comments

Public comments are invited on the findings that the Secretary must make as set forth in the regulations at 15 CFR

930.121. Comments are due within 60 days of the publication of this notice and should be sent to Molly Holt, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1305 East-West Highway, Room 6111, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Copies of comments will also be forwarded to the Appellant and the State.

III. Appeal Documents

All nonconfidential documents submitted in this appeal are available for public inspection during business hours at the NOAA Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. [Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog No. 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Assistance.]

Dated: October 1, 2002.

James R. Walpole,
General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 02-26903 Filed 10-22-02; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101102M]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Groundfish Fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public scoping meeting for a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS).

SUMMARY: NMFS announces a public scoping meeting to determine issues for an SEIS for the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is proposing management measures to improve the economic efficiency of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish fisheries which also may address conservation, safety, and social concerns. The Council is considering one or more methods of allocating fishing privileges such as: individual fishing quotas (IFQs); individual processing quotas (IPQs); allocations to communities; fishing cooperatives program; or other measures.

DATES: The public scoping meeting will be held on Friday, October 25, 2002, from 1 to 4 p.m. Written comments will be accepted through November 15, 2002 (see ADDRESSES).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel, Spruce Room, 500 West Third Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

Written comments on issues and alternatives for the SEIS should be sent to Sue Salvason, Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21868, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn: Lori Gravel-Durall, or delivered to the Federal Building, 709 West 9th Street, Juneau, AK. Comments may be sent via facsimile (fax) to 907-586-7557. NMFS will not accept comments by e-mail or internet.

An analysis of the issues and alternatives will be available through the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 West 4th, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glenn Merrill, (907) 586-7228 or email: glenn.merrill@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS published a notice of intent to prepare an SEIS on May 29, 2002 (67 FR 37393). The notice of intent provides additional information on the SEIS public scoping process and may be obtained through NMFS (See ADDRESSES).

NMFS is holding public scoping meetings and accepting written comments to determine the issues of concern and the appropriate range of management alternatives to be addressed in the SEIS. NMFS has held seven public scoping hearings in Alaska at Sand Point, King Cove, Kodiak, Cordova, Homer, and Petersburg, and also in Seattle, WA. The meeting announced in this document is intended to provide an additional opportunity for public comment during the scoping period. This meeting is being held in Anchorage to help facilitate participation by Native Alaskan tribal governments attending the 2002 Conference of the Alaska Federation of Natives. NMFS will notify Native Alaskan tribal governments prior to this meeting.

Additional information on the public scoping process may be obtained through NMFS (see ADDRESSES), or via the NMFS website at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/>. The specific options for rationalization may be obtained through the Council (see ADDRESSES), or via the Council website at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/>.

Public Involvement

NMFS is seeking written public comments on the scope of issues that should be addressed in the SEIS and alternatives and options that should be considered for management of the GOA groundfish fisheries. Public comments on specific aspects of the rationalization programs should be submitted to NMFS (see ADDRESSES). The public also will be able to provide oral and written comments at the meeting. The Council will make a draft analysis of these alternative programs available for public review and comment. Copies of the analysis can be requested from the Council (see ADDRESSES).

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Glenn Merrill, NMFS, (see ADDRESSES), (907) 586-7228, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et. seq.

Dated: October 18, 2002.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 02-26978 Filed 10-22-02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-22-5

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 2002-C-001]

Patent and Trademark Office Acquisition Guidelines (PTAG)

AGENCY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of proposed guidelines and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is publishing a notice of the proposed guidelines which it will apply to its acquisitions.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before November 22, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to: USPTO, Office of Procurement, Washington, DC 20231. Electronic comments may be submitted to: Mike.Anastasio@uspto.gov. Copies of all comments will be available for public inspection at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/comp/proc/> or in Suite 810, Crystal Park One, 2011 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through